Cell Phone/Hand-Held Electronic Device Use While Driving

As of January 2, 2011, Delaware will ban texting while driving and ban the use of handheld cell phones. This means a hands-free device will be required to talk on a cell phone while driving. Drivers are permitted to dial a phone number or to activate/deactivate their wireless equipment, and then they must put the device down. Delaware has also banned the use of pagers, PDAs, BlackBerry devices, laptops, games or portable computers, two-way communication devices, and any other hand-held electronic communication devices, while driving.

Exemptions:

- Law enforcement, firefighter, EMS technician, or other operators of authorized emergency vehicles in the performance of their official duties.
- Anyone reporting an emergency.
- Exempts a person driving or operating a farm tractor, non-registered farm truck or farm equipment.
- HAM radio operators.
- Business or government employees who use a two-way radio mounted or attached to a motor vehicle to communicate with a central dispatch, base of operation or with other employees (e.g., utility companies and DelDOT).